

Bay County Extension Council

Minutes
April 27, 2005

Date: April 27, 2005
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: MSU Extension Bay County
Large Conference Room, Third Floor
515 Center Avenue, Bay City MI 48708

Members Present:

Dennis Curtis	Jeff Histed	Douglas Rise
Philip Engelhardt	Robert Kernstock	Elaine Sobieray
Joyce Gavord	Lyle LeCronier	Ray VanDreissche
Kari Gulvas	Michelle Lesniak	Chris Wazny
George Heron	Delicia Newman	Barb Wishowski

Others Present:

Ann Arnold, FCS Extension Educator
John Burk, ANR Extension Educator
Judy Delestowicz, Administrative Assistant
Jan Rise, Master Gardener Volunteer Prog. Coord.
Howard Wetters, County Extension Director
Marie Ruemenapp, East Central Region Director

INFORMATION PRESENTED AND DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Doug Rise, acting chair, and Howie Wetters, CED, welcomed and thanked new and former Council members for attending and supporting MSU Extension Bay County. Council notebooks and program materials were provided, and Howie gave an overview of general information about Extension Councils and a brief history of Michigan State University Extension infrastructure. The immediate tasks for Council are reviewing MSUE Bay County program priorities, reviewing Council by-laws, and budget and program advisement.

Presentations were given to Council by MSUE Bay County staff on local programming. A PowerPoint presentation for 4-H was seen, highlighting principles, mission, and area of responsibilities for three active 4-H councils: Advisory, Livestock, and Horse. There was an interest expressed in getting youth involved with the local sugar beet industry by way of premiums at fair.

Ann Arnold introduced several programs under her responsibility: Food and Nutrition Program (FNP), Better Kid Care (BKC), Breastfeeding Initiative (BFI), Parent Connect, Building Strong Families (BSF). In addition to briefly going over each program, Ann explained the interaction with community service provider groups, local families, and MSU Extension Bay County.

Howie introduced Successful Futures, a program developed through a community coalition to fill the gap in services for child development, health and safety information, and access to medical care for families with children aged zero to six. The coalition now sits as this program's advisory board, MSU Extension Bay County acts as its fiduciary. An intake and referral coordinator and a home-visiting nurse under this program provide screening and referral services to other community agencies, acting also as a provider of last resort.

John Burk reviewed several programs he is currently involved in and responsible for: pesticide applicators certification training and educational programs, variety plot(s) testing, pesticide collection, and the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP).

Jan Rise gave a PowerPoint presentation on Master Gardener Volunteer program that not only trains volunteers to be better gardeners, but also has them go out into the community to educate the public on horticulture through volunteer service. Jan highlighted several successful, on-going projects and subjects, including in the 12-week Master Gardener core curriculum training; and talked about programs and projects now being developed. Jan, as coordinator of the program, has provided over two thousand volunteer hours to Bay County.

Howie talked about the program areas he covers, in addition to his administrative responsibilities as county Extension director. Focus areas are economic and business development. Also, participates in community stakeholder forums on local, emerging issues like homeland security; and works as a facilitator for local core groups which develop new ideas and programs, like the newly developed substance abuse treatment program at the Bay County Juvenile Home. Business development programs delivered are Citizen Planner and FastTrac.

Due to the length of time the program presentations took, Howie asked to discuss MSUE Bay County budget status at the next meeting.

Howie asked for volunteers to review the current by-laws for possible revision. When asked if the current by laws were standard to Extension councils, Marie Ruemenapp responded that by laws are individualized for each county. MSU Extension Genesee and Shiawassee County councils have good models. The current bylaws will be reviewed by the new Council executive board with a report back to group on need to revise.

Marie thanked everyone for support for MSU Extension and its programs with their time and talents by accepting a seat on Extension Council.

Nominations and elections took place for Extension Council executive board: chair, vice chair, and secretary.

While there had been problems holding regular meetings in the past, Howie assured Council that this group will meet six times a year. A sign-up sheet was passed amongst members for current E-mail addresses.

ACTION TAKEN

It was moved, supported, and carried unanimously to elect Douglas Rise chair of the Bay County Extension Council.

It was moved, supported, and carried unanimously to elect Ray VanDreissche vice chair of the Bay County Extension Council.

It was moved, supported, and carried unanimously to elect Philip Engelhardt secretary of the Bay County Extension Council.

WHAT'S NEXT AND FOLLOW UP

- Budget Overview (historical information)
- Review local program goals and priority setting
- Citizen Planner program information
- 4-H sugar beet project
- Bylaws review committee report (executive board)

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, May 18, 2005**, at the same time, 5:15 p.m. A dinner meeting was planned; therefore, the place was not determined. Minutes of this meeting and the meeting location time and place information will be sent out from MSU Extension Bay County.

Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Prepared by J. Delestowicz

Approved and corrected May 18, 2005